

**Town of Darien  
Representative Town Meeting  
Rules Committee  
Regular Meeting  
Monday, January 4, 2010**

**Attendance:**

**Present:** Karen Armour, Liz Bacon, Joanne Hennessy, Marc Thorne, Gary Swenson, John Price, Maria Cleary, Seth Morton, Dennis Maroney, Mary Guimond,

**Absent:** Mark Adiletta, Flora Smith, Anita Rycenga

**Audience:** Walter Casey, Jan Pierret, Sandy Stolar, Cyndy Ashburne, Richard Friedman, Jenny Schwartz, Jan Raymond, Joe Warren Sr.

**Call to Order:** Ms. Armour called the meeting to order at 8:02PM

**Approval of Minutes of the Meeting of December 8, 2009:** A change was requested to show that Public Health and Safety, not Planning Zoning and Housing had been assigned to Tax Exemptions for Handicapped vehicles. The change was adopted unanimously. Minutes then approved without objection.

**Approve committee assignments for new members of Districts 1 and 2.**

**District 1** – Tim Schwarz assigned to Finance and Budget. Moved by John Price, seconded, and adopted unanimously

**District 2** – Kirk Hoffman to Finance and Budget, Cecilia Mundt to Park and Recreation, Shelley Carder to Public Health and Safety, Spencer McIlmurray to T.G.S. & A, and Mark Harmon to Finance and Budget. Moved by Liz Bacon, seconded, and adopted unanimously

**Discuss Assignments of outstanding items for future agenda.**

1. Approve interlocal agreement to allow joint police activities with New Canaan and Stamford on DUI task force. Assigned- Public Health and Safety-Primary, Finance and Budget-Secondary
2. Accept gift from Darien Community & Technology Foundation for police console. Assigned – Public Health and Safety-Primary, Finance and Budget-Secondary.
3. Accept federal grant to police for training. Assigned – Public Health and Safety-Primary, Finance and Budget-Secondary
4. Ordinance: Tax exemption for handicapped-adapted vehicles Assigned – Finance and Budget - Primary, Public Health and Safety-Secondary, T.G.S. & A. –Secondary.
5. Ordinance: Tax abatement for Affordable Housing, Planning, Zoning and Housing-Primary, Public Health and Safety-Secondary, Finance and Budget-Secondary.  
Discussion ensued about whether or not this item is ready for the RTM Agenda. Ms Hennessey noted that PZ&H Committee felt it was not ready. Mr. Price from F&B Committee felt that it is ready and that time constraints made it important to move the approval along. Jenny Schwartz, chair of the Darien Housing Authority (DHA), explained the details of obtaining financing in the current market. DHA is submitting its application in April. They need to know what the tax structure from the Town will be. Town counsel wrote the ordinance and gave it to the prior Board of Selectmen. Ms. Armour explained that it is sometimes important to allow the RTM extra time to consider complex issues; therefore it is possible that a vote on this item could be postponed from January 25. Mr. Maroney moved and it was seconded to put the Item on the January 25<sup>th</sup> Agenda of the RTM. The motion passed unanimously.
6. Approve purchase of property for sewer project. Mr. Maroney moved and it was seconded that Finance and Budget be Primary and Public Works secondary. The motion failed, Mr. Maroney, Ms. Cleary, and Mr. Thorne in Favor. Mr. Price moved and it was seconded to make Public Works - Primary and Finance and Budget – secondary. The motion passed unanimously

Ms Armour said she would like to put the revision of the Town Ordinances and Fees on the Rules March 15 Agenda and asked Mr. Morton to coordinate with Mr. Davis and Mr. Whitehead.

Ms Armour noted that she had postponed a report from TGS&A to the next Regular Meeting of Rules on February 8.

Ms Armour then introduced the agenda for the January 25th Regular Meeting of the RTM. In discussion the following order was established:

1. Grant to police for training
2. Gift from Darien Community & Technology Foundation for police console
3. Interlocal agreement to allow joint police activities with New Canaan and Stamford on DUI task force
4. Tax exemption for handicapped-adapted vehicles
5. Purchase of property for sewer project
6. Tax abatement for affordable housing

Mr. Maroney moved the Agenda and it was seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

The next Rules Committee meeting is on February 8, 2010.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:45 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Seth W. Morton". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly stylized font.

Seth W. Morton  
Clerk